

Revitalizing Our River Corridors

Over the last few decades, as the region urbanized, the Rio Salado area was identified as an opportunity for renewal, recreation, habitat restoration and open space. The cities of Tempe and Phoenix committed to several large-scale projects that bring new life and new vision to the Rio Salado. The *Rio Salado Pathway (Phoenix to Tempe)* is an extension of this effort.



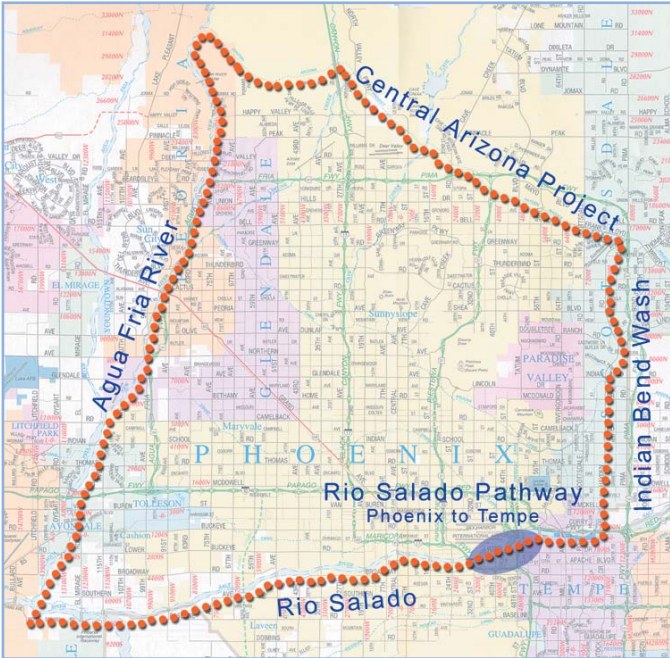
Location Map

Rio Salado Pathway is located near many high-use destinations including Papago Park, Sky Harbor Airport, ASU, South Mountain, North Mountain, several community colleges, downtown Phoenix and Tempe, Indian Bend Wash and the Grand Canal.

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Regional Loop

Rio Salado Pathway links two significant path systems along the Valley's rivers and canals. Together, these systems create a non-vehicular transportation corridor that loops almost 100 miles.

Rio Salado Pathway
Phoenix to Tempe
“Completing the Link”

Project Summary

The Rio Salado Pathway (Phoenix to Tempe) is an accessible, shared-use path proposed along the south bank of the Rio Salado beginning at approximately 28th Street in Phoenix and ending at Priest Drive in Tempe. It accommodates users of all ages and abilities, follows all federal and local safety regulations and fills a critical gap in the existing regional path plan which connects major destinations along rivers, washes and canals. Most notably, two major metropolitan populations in the region, downtown Phoenix and downtown Tempe, become connected through this multi-modal pathway system as a direct result of this effort. It supports a variety of alternative transportation options that result in successfully blending non-motorized transit with the beauty of our natural environment, the value of public art and the amenities of landscape enhancements. The Rio Salado Pathway (Phoenix to Tempe) is a part of the significant revitalization effort taking place in our region's rivers and washes.

Community Contribution

Rio Salado Pathway (Phoenix to Tempe) creates an environment that encourages healthy living by providing comfort, amenities and safe conditions for users to walk or bike in an area previously uncomfortable and unsafe to travel.

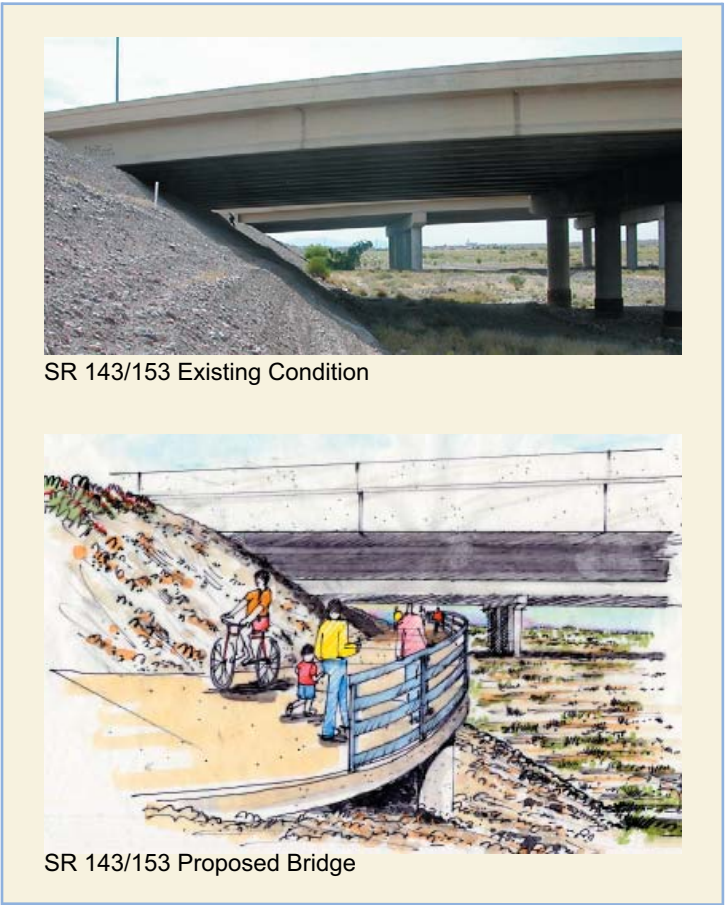
Rest areas and lookouts provide evenly spaced shade and seating for users throughout the year. These areas may also contain interpretive elements as well as art, entry monuments, benches, decorative pavement and other amenities to create memorable features

The Vision

The establishment of the Rio Salado Pathway (Phoenix to Tempe) secures the opportunity to create an open space corridor to be developed in future years as communities begin to utilize the newly provided amenities of the Rio Salado “Salt River” basin. The long term vision is of an established linear park that encourages redevelopment along the river.

Funding

Through support of both the City Councils of Phoenix and Tempe and Regional Council of Maricopa Association of Governments, \$150,000 was approved to conduct a Feasibility Study on the shared-use trail and public amenities for the nearly four mile gap. Now that the study is complete, the cities of Phoenix and Tempe are currently seeking a combination of private and public funding to construct Rio Salado Pathway (Phoenix to Tempe).



and path identity. Additionally, the pathway links users to existing bus lines and provides feasible opportunities to connect to Sky Harbor International Airport and the light rail without using motorized vehicles.

A Regional Partnership



